

Patron—His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Rodgers, Bishop of Killaloe

The Kilrush
Operatic Society

(AMATEUR)

On the occasion of their tenth Anniversary
PRESENTS ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST
AND MOST DRAMATIC OPERAS

FAUST

(GOUNOD)

WITH GUEST ARTISTES :

Veronica Dunne
Soprano

Josephine Scanlon
Soprano

Patricia Lawlor
Mezzo-Soprano

Arthur Servent
Tenor

Russell Cooper
Baritone

Stanislav Pieczora
Bass

TICKETS :

Balcony - - - 7/6
(Bookable)
Centre Parterre - - 5/-
(Bookable)
Side Parterre - - 3/-
(Unreserved)

☆

RESERVATIONS :

Please write, telephone or call
OPERA BOOKING OFFICE
The Square, Kilrush
Telephone 103
Hours: 12 noon to 6 p.m.
From Monday, 8th May, to
Saturday, 20th May

☆

**At Mars Theatre,
Kilrush**

FOR EIGHT NIGHTS

COMMENCING

Sunday, May 14th

AND ENDING

Whit Sunday, May 21st

Gala Patrons Performance--

Monday, 15th May, 1961

Preview Brochure with the Compliments of the Society

From the Past

1951 "STUDENT PRINCE"	JOSEPHINE SCANLON "Overhead the moon is beaming" JOSIE O'DONNELL "Golden days in the sunshine of our happy youth" DENIS EGAN "Deep in my heart dear, I have a dream of you"
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Stanislav Pieczora

THIS internationally famous Bass who plays the part of Mephistopheles was born in Poland and studied Medicine at Warsaw University. At the same time he studied Music at the Conservatoire and it was soon evident that his career should be that of a singer. He made his Operatic debut at the Warsaw Grand Theatre in Don Giovanni. The war intervened and he found himself in a Russian concentration camp, but later escaped to join the free Polish Army in the Middle East. Came to London in 1947 where he practised as a Doctor. Later joined the Carl Rosa Opera Co. and took up singing as a profession. Has also sung with the Nederlandsche Opera in Amsterdam and with Sadlers Wells. Has given many T.V. and Radio performances. This is his first visit to Ireland. His hobbies are Chess, photography and Bridge.

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REVIEW

THE BRISTOL EVENING WORLD—3rd October, 1956:
"On to the stage of the Hippodrome last night swept a figure of menace, his red and black coat swirling, his eyes glittering. This was a Mephistopheles to send shivers through the audience—a great performance by Stanislaw Pieczora in a superb production."



Veronica Dunne



SOPRANO: Has sung with Covent Garden Opera Coy., in Milan and at the Carnegie Hall, New York. Sang the part of Eily, The Colleen Bawn, in Kilrush, 1959.

Russell Cooper



BARITONE: Sang with Australian National Opera before coming to England in 1956. Won Australian National Broadcast competition. Toured for the past three seasons with the Arts Council of Great Britain. *First visit to Ireland.*



JOHN CAROLAN, Tenor: Has sung with the Glyndebourne Opera Co. and with the Welsh National Opera. Also as soloist at the Edinburgh Festival. Frequently on Radio and T.V.

TANO FERENDINOS, Tenor: Born in Cardiff, the son of a Greek Sea Captain. Studied singing in Athens with Maria Callas. Has sung major operatic roles in South America, Italy and Greece.

Josephine Scanlon

SOPRANO: During recent years has sung many major Operatic roles in "Travatore", "Faust", "Lily of Killarney", etc. Sang the lead in the "Student Prince", our first production, ten years ago.

FAUST

AN OPERA IN FOUR ACTS BY GOUNOD
 Producer—MR. H. POWELL LLOYD, London

ACT I

Scene 1—"FAUST'S" STUDY.
 „ 2—THE MARKET PLACE AT
 FAIR TIME.

(Interval—Ten Minutes)

ACT II

MARGUERITE'S GARDEN.

(Interval—Ten Minutes)

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ACT III

Scene 1—IN A CHURCH.
 „ 2—THE MARKET PLACE BY
 NIGHT.

(Interval—Three Minutes)

ACT IV

A PRISON CELL.

★ The Opera takes place in Europe in Medieval times

CHARACTERS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCES

FAUST (Philosopher) JOHN CAROLAN and TANO FERENDINOS
 JOHN CAROLAN—Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed. TANO FERENDINOS—Thur., Fri., Sat., Sun.
 MEPHISTOPHELES (Satan) STANISLAV PIECZORA
 VALENTINE (An Army Captain) RUSSELL COOPER
 SIEBEL (Admirer of Marguerite) PATRICIA LAWLOR
 WAGNER (A Student) JACK CULLIGAN
 MARGUERITE (Sister of Valentine) VERONICA DUNNE & JOSEPHINE SCANLON
 VERONICA DUNNE—Sun., Tues., Thur., Sat. JOSEPHINE SCANLON—Mon., Wed., Fri., Sun.
 MARTHA (An Elderly Nurse) PATRICIA LAWLOR

Ladies of the Chorus

Violet Houlihan, Kathleen Harrop, Anita Maher, Margaret Rush, Patsy Buggle, Kathleen Hennessy, Mary Moore, ~~Breda Tubridy~~, Teresa Brennan, Mary McMahon, Kathleen Doyle, ~~Teresa Clohessy~~, Margaret O'Dwyer, Breda Roughan, Patsy Pryall, Loura Shalloo, Shirley Breen, Mary Hassett, Mary Dunleavy, ~~Mary O'Brien~~, Noreen Maher, Mary Lynch, Phyllis Daly, Peggy Ryan, Mary C. Cotter, Sally Moody, ~~Catherine Shannon~~, Loura Cotter, Ann Carey, ~~Margaret Ralls~~, Olive Nash and Margaret Breen.

Gentlemen of the Chorus

Michael Mahony, ~~Thomas Moloney~~, ~~Kenneth Brisbane~~, Charles Clancy, Jack Keller, ~~Leo Ryan~~, Paddy O'Malley, Senan Shalloo, ~~Paddy Shalloo~~, ~~Michael Morrissey~~, Christy Lynch, Michael Moynihan, Tim Ryan, Terry Dunleavy, ~~George Brew~~, Gerry Clancy, Josie Flynn, Paddy McInerney, Jack Fennell, Jack McGrath, ~~William O'Leoney~~, Harry Cotter, ~~Michael Hartney~~, ~~Fian Breen~~, Michael Flynn, Patsy Roughan, Oliver Moloney, Tommy Downes and Jimmy Grogan.

Orchestra

Conductor: CAPT. R. B. KEALY, B.Mus., of the Band of the Southern Command.

1st VIOLINS: Mr F. O'Carroll, Miss S. O'Tierney and Mr Thomas Crotty. 2nd VIOLINS: Mr Brendan Cullinane and Mrs M. Roche. VIOLA: MISS K. RANKIN. CELLO: Miss K. Behan. BASS: Mr P. Kavanagh. FLUTE: Miss E. Leeming. OBOE: Mr K. Kavanagh. CLARINET: G. Prendergast, Army School of Music. HORNS: T. Scollard and W. Grant. TIMPANI: Mr Scott, Army School of Music. TRUMPETS: D. Sutton and W. Grant.

Musical Director: REV. FATHER P. O'BRIEN.

Directors of Choral Training: Miss D. Mulqueeney, B.Comm., H.Dip.; Jack Culligan
 House Manager: Mr J. Clancy. Stage Manager: Laurence Rush. Lighting: G. C. Glynn.
 Scenery: Eileen Lynch. Make-up: J. A. Doyle. Costumes: Ladies' Committee & Messrs
 Gings of Dublin. Teas for Cast: Ladies' Committee. Programmes: Miss E. McMahon.
 Choreography: Mrs. Dodo Kelly. Booking: Mrs. M. Rush. Ice Cream: Mrs. J. Flynn.

The Story of the Opera

TIME: LATE MIDDLE AGES.

PLACE: GERMANY

ACT I

Scene I—Faust's Study

FAUST, an old man, sits at his writing table in deep contemplation. He realises that his life has been wasted. Though he has accumulated knowledge, he has lost the things of greatest value to a human being—youth, beauty and love. He decides to end his life, but as he raises the poison to his lips, the sound of maidens singing comes to him through the window. He puts the goblet down. He no longer wishes to die, and decides to try the "Black Art" to obtain what he longs for. He invokes Satan. The Devil, in the guise of Mephistopheles, appears. He presents himself as a nobleman with a feather in his cap, a rapier at his side and a cloak over his shoulder. He offers Faust riches and power, but Faust wants youth. That, too, Mephistopheles can offer him—on conditions. On earth he will be Faust's obedient servant, but after death—Faust is to belong to him. Faust draws back in horror, but when Mephistopheles conjures up for him the image of a young and beautiful maiden, he gives way and signs the contract which Mephistopheles lays before him. He gives Faust a goblet and as he drains it he is transformed into a young and handsome cavalier. Accompanied by Mephistopheles, he goes out into the world to taste again the joys of life.

Scene II—Market Place

The market place is full of townsfolk, men and women, young girls and students, and soldiers departing for the wars. It is the time of the Kermesse, the Easter Festival, and they sing and dance. Valentine, brother of Marguerite, is captain of the soldiers, and has been given a picture of the Madonna to keep him from harm. He beseeches the Holy Virgin to protect the girl in his absence. A young student, Siebel, who loves Marguerite, promises to look after her. The song of another young man, Wagner, is interrupted by the sudden appearance of Mephistopheles, who sings "The Golden Calf." Mephistopheles tells the fortunes of those about him. The flowers which Siebel will gather for Marguerite will wither at his touch. Mephistopheles spits out in disdain the wine given him by Wagner. He can give them something better—he strikes the inn sign and sparkling wines gushes from it. He proposes the health of the beautiful Marguerite; Valentine draws his sword but is powerless to use it against the Evil One. Valentine and his friends know then that they are face to face with the Devil. But when they advance on him with the cross-shaped hilts upraised, he has to give way before the holy symbol. When the dancing begins again, Faust insists that Mephistopheles shall let him meet the maiden he has promised him. Marguerite enters and Faust offers to escort her home, but she bashfully refuses. He is disappointed, but Mephistopheles assures him that she will soon be his.

ACT II

Marguerite's Garden

Siebel enters to gather flowers for Marguerite. He sings "Gentle Flowers in the Dew," but even as he sings, the flowers in his hand begin to fade. The Devil's prophecy has come true. But with a happy thought, Siebel dips his fingers in Holy Water and the flowers revive. Siebel departs and Faust and Mephistopheles enter. The latter laughs

at Siebel's poor gift. He knows what will interest the maiden more and goes to fetch it. Faust is charmed by the simplicity of the maiden and gives expression to his pleasure in "All Hail Thou Dwelling." Mephistopheles returns with a casket of jewels, which he places outside Marguerite's door. They both hide and Marguerite enters. She sits at her spinning wheel and sings reflectively the song of the "King of Thule." She notices the casket of jewels and, dazzled by them, she puts them on. She then sings the famous "Jewel Song." She is surprised by her aunt Martha, who assures her that the jewels must be from some noble suitor. Faust and Mephistopheles re-enter and the quartet which follows is one of the highlights of the opera. Martha immediately becomes enamoured of Mephistopheles, who brings her news of her husband's death. Marguerite tells Faust of her loneliness. Faust is so touched that he decides to spare her, but Mephistopheles jeers at him and tells him that Marguerite will confess her true feelings to the stars. In the moonlight she opens her window and sings of her yearning for love. Faust hastens to her and takes her hand. Mephistopheles laughs scornfully.

ACT III

Scene I—A Church

Women enter the church to pray. Marguerite comes in and kneels, but the congregation shun her because of her disgrace. In her anguish she prays to God. Mephistopheles, shielding himself from the cross above the high altar, embodying her bad conscience, reproaches her for what she has done. For her sin there is but one punishment—perdition. The church choir begins a chant of worship but the voice of Mephistopheles tells her she is doomed. Suddenly the fiend stands before her, black and threatening. With a cry of horror Marguerite swoons.

Scene II—The Market Place at Night

The victorious soldiers return. Valentine is about to enter the house when Siebel stops him to tell him about Marguerite. He pleads with him to be merciful, but Valentine tears himself free and rushes in. Night falls, and Mephistopheles, who has forced Faust to accompany him, enters and sings a mocking serenade to Marguerite. But instead of the girl, Valentine appears and demands to know who has betrayed his sister. Mephistopheles indicates Faust. They fight a duel, in which Faust is aided by the evil power of Mephistopheles. Valentine, throwing away the picture of the Virgin which his sister had given him, is mortally wounded. The two culprits escape while a crowd gathers about the fallen man. Marguerite kneels beside her brother, but with his last breath he curses her.

ACT IV

A Prison Cell

Marguerite has become demented and has killed her child. While the Guard sleeps, Faust and Mephistopheles enter. Faust tries to free her, while Mephistopheles keeps watch. Faust bids Marguerite make haste, but she only talks of the time when they first met. Mephistopheles returns saying that they must depart. When Marguerite sees the Evil One she shrinks back and, praying to God for protection, she falls dead. Mephistopheles cries out that she is damned, but a heavenly chorus answers "Saved." Mephistopheles claims Faust.

Directors of Choral Training



DYMPNA MULQUEENEY, B.Comm., H.Dip. Secondary Teacher at the Convent of Mercy, Kilrush. Assisted last year with the choral training for the "Bohemian Girl." Shared the choral training this year with Mr. J. Culligan, under Rev. Father P. O'Brien, Musical Director.



JACK CULLIGAN. Senior Official at Kilrush Post Office. Has taken leading parts in all the productions of the Society since the start and in addition assisted with the Choral training. Sings the role of Wagner in "Faust".

Accompanist in Choral Training: MRS J. RYAN, A.L.C.M., Ennis

Patrons

THE Society is deeply grateful to its numerous Patrons who each year, by their unfailing support enable it to undertake such ambitious productions. To those who may not have received our Patrons' Appeal we would advise that for a subscription of £1:

- A. Patrons are entitled to one complimentary ticket and it is available for any one performance excluding the final night.
- B. As Patron Members of the Society are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting in July to elect incoming Committee.
- C. By their generous support keep the Society in being which provides a worthwhile past-time for almost 100 active members.



Members of the Kilrush Operatic Society in Angels costume for "Faust"

H. Powell Lloyd

PRODUCER

As an Actor at the "Old Vic" played Shakespeare and in many classical and modern plays. Later sang many operatic roles with Sadler's Wells. He has produced over fifty different Operas—Sadler's Wells, Carl Rosa, Welsh National Opera, Wexford Festival, Johannesburg Municipal Opera, Auckland (New Zealand) Festival, etc. Produced *'The Lily of Killarney'* and *'Bohemian Girl'* for us.

Has been working mainly for Sadler's Wells Opera, recently producing among other Operas, Mozart's *'Don Giovanni'*, Beethoven's *'Fidelio'* and Humperdinck's *'Hansel and Gretel'*. Recent productions in England include *'Gipsy Baron'* and *'Merry England'*.



Patricia Lawlor



MEZZO-SOPRANO: Plays Siebel. Has sung with Dublin, Cork and Waterford Operatic Societies and extensively on the radio. *Siebel* is her favourite role.



Conductor: CAPT. R. B. KEALY, B.Mus., Band of the Southern Command, Cork, returns again to Kilrush following his very successful conducting of the *'Bohemian Girl'*.

The Kilrush Operatic Society

1960-61 SEASON

President: VERY REV. FATHER P. RYAN, P.P.

Chairman: DR. RICHARD COUNIHAN

Vice-Chairman: MR. J. CULLIGAN

Hon. Secretary: MR. C. GLYNN

Hon. Treasurer: MR. C. O'CARROLL

Committee Members: Mrs. J. M. Sherin, Miss D. Mulqueeney, Miss E. Lynch, Miss M. O'Kelly, Mr. W. D. Saunders, Mr. B. Howard, Mr. J. C. Clancy, Mr. L. Rush, Mr. G. C. Glynn, Mr. J. Keller, Mr. T. Sheehan, Mr. J. M. Sherin.

Musical Directors:

Rev. Fr. P. O'Brien, Miss D. Mulqueeney and Mr. J. Culligan.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR VISITORS TO COUNTY CLARE

★ A GOOD PLACE TO SPEND THE WHIT WEEK-END

Accommodation: Kilrush, Kilkee, Lahinch, Ennis, Ennistymon and Lisdoonvarna, Killaloe and Corofin.

Coast Road: As a change, come from Ennis via Kildysart, Labasheeda and Knock (sharp turn left just beyond Kilmurry-McMahon Post Office) and Cappa (sharp turn left again at four crosses, one mile from Kilrush. The full length of road has now been tarred and gives a wonderful view of the Shannon River.

Deep Sea Fishing: Boats available at Cappa, Kilrush by arrangement.

Scattery Island: Ancient Monastic settlement, one mile from Cappa Pier

★ *The Kilrush Operatic Society acknowledges with thanks the ever-ready assistance of the Rev. Superior and Brothers of the Christian Brothers' School, Kilrush, who pioneered the Society, and have since kept it going by their constant and ever-willing help, and by the provision of the School and equipment for rehearsals.*

★ *The Society also thank all others who by their voluntary efforts have contributed to this Production.*

From the Past

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FAUST

FOR the tenth anniversary of our Society we have chosen one of the world's greatest and most popular Operas, which develops the tragic and dramatic theme of the devil's bargain for the soul of a man.

The French composer Gounod, whose Ave Maria is known to all, had an instantaneous and lasting success when his opera, based upon an old medieval legend, was first presented in Paris in 1859. Since then it has been performed there more than 2,000 times as compared to about 800 times for the next most popular, Carmen.

In Ireland Faust was one of the great favourites with the old touring companies some forty years ago. Whilst in recent years it has been performed in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Waterford, we believe we are the first provincial town where an amateur society has undertaken the elaborate production this great work requires.

Guest Artistes

VERONICA DUNNE, *Soprano*: Sings Margurite on alternative nights with Josephine Scanlon. Has sung this role with the Dublin Grand Opera Society.

JOSEPHINE SCANLON, *Soprano*: Played the lead in "The Student Prince" in our first production ten years ago. Has sung many major Operatic Roles in recent years with universal acclaim.

PATRICIA LAWLOR, *Mezzo-Soprano*: Plays Siebel. Has sung with the Dublin, Cork and Waterford Operatic Societies.

ARTHUR SERVENT, *Tenor*: Has sung as Principal Tenor with Sadlers Wells. Sings the exacting role of Faust.

RUSSELL COOPER, *Baritone*: Sang with the Australian National Opera before coming to England. In 1956 won Australian National Broadcasting Competition. Plays Valentine.

☆

STANISLAV PIECZORA, *Bass*: Please see opposite.

Producer

MR. HARRY POWELL LLOYD returns from London for his third visit.

Conductor

CAPT. R. B. KEALY, B.Mus., Band of the Southern Command, Cork, comes back again for his second visit.

Orchestra

MR. FINTAN O'CARROLL of Waterford returns for his seventh visit with his own Orchestra supplemented by Instrumentalists from the Academy of Music and the Army School of Music.

The Kilrush Contribution

The Musical Directors who trained the Chorus, the Chorus themselves who give many months of their free time to uphold and surpass their previous good reputation, those who fill the minor parts and strive to sing and act in keeping with trained professionals, those who never appear on the stage at all and capably attend to costumes, scenery, staging, lighting, accommodation, booking etc., and finally but not least the united effort of the entire community of a small town in the West of Ireland, remote from an area of dense population, to make their Society known throughout Ireland for the consistently high standard of their musical productions.

Some well-known Music. Songs and Choruses from Faust

THE BALLET MUSIC ★ THE JEWEL SONG ★ THE CALF OF GOLD
"EVEN BRAVEST HEARTS MAY SWELL" ★ "ALL HAIL THOU DWELLING
PURE AND LOWLY" ★ "GENTLE FLOWERS IN THE DEW" ★ THE
GRAND CHORUS ★ THE WALTZ CHORUS ★ THE SOLDIERS CHORUS

Some Suggestions for Visitors to Co. Clare

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M. O'Kelly, Mr. W. D. Saunders, Mr. B. Howard, Mr. J. Clancy, Mr. L. Rush, Mr.
G. C. Glynn, Mr. J. Keller, Mr. T. Sheehan, Mr. J. M. Sherin.

Musical Directors:

Rev. Fr. P. O'Brien, Miss D. Mulqueeny and Mr. J. Culligan.

Kilrush Operatic Society.

List of Patrons

1961



Kilrush Operatic Society—LIST OF PATRONS, 1961

(Subscriptions received up to Thursday, 11th May).

Mr. Padraig Ashe, Doonbeg.
Mr. Michael Ashe, N.T., Doonbeg.
Mr. G. Ashenhurst, Ashenhurst, Williams
& Co. Ltd., Dublin.
Anonymous, Frances Street, Kilrush.

Mr. Joseph Barrett, Moore St., Kilrush.
Very Rev. Fr. Brady, P.P., Doora, Ennis.
Mr. P. J. Byrne, National Bank, Kilrush.
Mr. Kieran Barry, M.R.C.V.S., Callan, Co.
Kilkenny.
Mr. Flan Brew, Henry Street, Kilrush.
Mr. Michael Bourke, The Square, Kilrush.
Bradshaw Bros., Limerick.
Dr. David Barry, Coolmeen, Ennis.
Mr. John Barron, Clash Mealcon, Causeway,
Co. Kerry.
Mr. Noel Le Brocquy, Greenmount Oil Co.,
Harold's Cross, Dublin.
Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Berry, Gowrie Park,
Glenageary.
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Browne, c/o Todds,
Limerick.
Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Boland, Ennis.
Mr. Ml. A. Barry, B.E., Kilkee.
Mr. T. P. Byrne, Henry Street, Kilrush.
Boxing Club, Kilrush.
Badminton Club, Kilrush.
Mr. Roger Bourke, c/o G. & J. F. Bourke
Ltd., Limerick.

Dr. R. Counihan, Frances St., Kilrush.
Very Rev. D. Conheady, P.P., Corofin.
Rev. Fr. Clancy, C.C., Kilmihil.
Mr. Stephen Cleary, c/o Todd's, Limerick.
Mr. Patrick Casey, Kildimo, Limerick.
Mr. Chas. Clancy, The Square, Kilrush.
Mr. J. C. Clancy, Town Hall, Kilrush.
Mr. Jack Coghlan, Frances St., Kilrush.
Convent of Mercy, Kilrush.
Mr. P. Chambers, Solr., Ennistymon.
Very Rev. J. M. Cuddy, St. Flannan's
College, Ennis.
"Clare Champion," Ennis.
Mr. S. J. Collins, O'Curry St., Kilkee.
Mr. J. D. Collins, West End Hotel, Kilkee.
Mr. Raymond Clancy, Vandeleur Street,
Kilrush.

Mrs. Hanna Chambers, Moore St., Kilrush.
Mr. James Clancy, John Street, Kilrush.
Mr. A. C. Conway, Ennis Road, Kildysart.
Mr. Paddy Collins, Main Street, Miltown
Malbay.

Christian Brothers, Kilrush.
Mr. Thomas Chambers, Henry St., Kilrush.
Very Rev. J. Clune, P.P., Cooraclare.
Mr. J. Clancy, Frances St., Kilrush.
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